Industry Profiles

Accommodation and Food Services Industry

Revised: February 2008

Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry

Overview:

The Accommodation and Food Services industry[1] in Alberta includes establishments that:

- provide short-term lodging and complementary services (i.e. hotels, motor hotels, resorts, motels, bed and breakfast accommodation, housekeeping cottages and cabins, recreational vehicle parks and campgrounds and hunting and fishing camps); and
- prepare meals, snacks and beverages to customer order for immediate consumption on or off the premises.

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[1] North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) major group 72

Section A: Business Environment

1. 2006 Employment and Unemployment Numbers and Rates:

	Alberta	Accommodation and Food Services Industry
Number of employed	1,870,700	114,900
Percent employed in the industry		6.1%
Number of unemployed	66,800	5,300
Unemployment rate	3.4%	4.4%

For more information on employment numbers or for a historical comparison, go to the Labour Force Survey website or Statistics Canada.

2. Industry Growth:

- This industry is expected to experience average employment growth. (Average = 1.3% to 2.3%)
- Employment will grow on average 2.2% from 2006 to 2011. Approximately 13,324 jobs will be created in the forecast period.
- Employment is expected to increase to 128,166 by 2011.
- This industry is expected to provide 5.7% of all new jobs in Alberta between 2006 and 2011.

For more information, see the Alberta Modified Canadian Occupational Projection System Outlook (2006-2011) online and the Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS) website's industry descriptions.

Outlook

The *Alberta Occupational Forecast 2007-2012,* indicates that Chef and cook occupations and Occupations in food and beverage service should expect to experience below average growth between the forecast period. The *Alberta Occupational Demand and Supply Outlook (2006-2016),* projects a supply shortage in food and beverage service occupations by 2011, and a supply surplus every year between 2006 to 2015 for managers in food service and accommodation.

According to the *Travel Markets Outlook: National Focus: Autumn 2006*, Alberta should expect a surge in tourism due to domestic travellers, which should offset a projected decline of 1.9% from visiting tourists from the United States. The *2006 Alberta Tourism Market Monitor* states that in 2006 the number of visitors directly entering Alberta from the United States and other countries had declined nearly three and two per cent, respectively, from the previous year. *Travel Markets Outlook: National Focus: Autumn 2006* also suggests that with a rising population in Alberta, stimulated by the supply of high-paying jobs, and non-traditional work schedules from companies in the oil sands field, an increase in travel demand within Alberta should be expected. Finally, the report maintains its projection that the United States government's Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, requiring all travellers entering or re-entering the United States to carry secure documentation, will increase the costs and inconvenience of crossing the border, especially for same-day visitors.

3. Company Size

Establishment Size	Alberta Businesses		Accommodation and Food Services Businesses	
	Number of Employees	%	Number of Employees	%
Less than 20 employees	525,000	34.1%	49,400	69.9%
20 to 99 employees	543,600	35.3%	46,800	23.3%
100 to 500 employees	292,400	19.0%	8,600	6.4%
Over 500 employees	178,900	11.6%	2,600	2.4%

Data Source: Labour Force Historical Review 2006, Statistics Canada

Section B: Human Resources Profile

1. Occupational Information:

Some examples of occupations that can be found in the Accommodation and Food Services industry include:

- bartender;
- chef;
- hotel and motel desk clerk;
- restaurant manager; and
- housekeeping attendant.

For a complete listing of all occupations related to this industry as well as detailed information on education and skill requirements, visit the Alberta Occupational Profiles website.

2. Demographics: Age and Gender

According to the Labour Force Survey, the gender break-down in the Accommodation and Food Services industry is as follows:

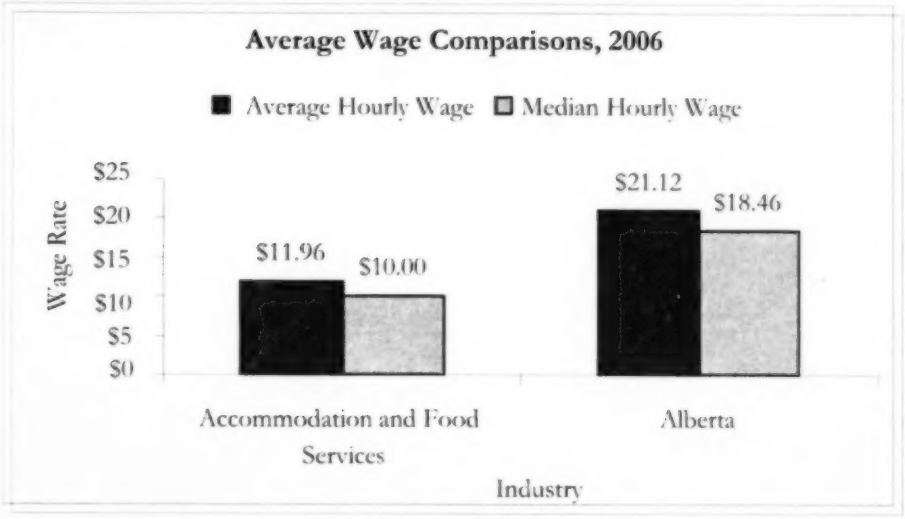
- women employed: 71,400 people, or 62.1%
- men employed: 43,500 people, or 37.9%

In comparison, women accounted for 45.3% and men made up 54.7% of the total employed in Alberta.

Age Characteristics	Alberta Employees		Accommodation and Food Services Industry Employees	
	Number	%	Number	%
15-24 years	329,600	17.6%	53,600	46.6%
25-54 years	1,286,500	68.8%	51,600	44.9%
55 years and over	254,600	13.6%	9,700	8.4%

Data Source: Labour Force Historical Review 2006, Statistics Canada

3. Wages:



Data Source: Labour Force Historical Review 2006, Statistics Canada

Wage and Salary Information for Selected Occupations

Occupation	Average Hourly Wage			Average Annual Salary
	Starting	After 3 years	Top	
Accommodation service manager	$ 15.56	$17.69	$ 19.29	$ 38,554
Hotel front desk clerks	$ 8.83	$ 10.07	$ 11.51	$ 21,298
Cooks	$ 8.66	$10.50	$ 13.43	$ 19,305
Maîtres d'hôtel and hosts/hostesses	$ 6.89	$ 8.01	$ 8.63	$ 9,089

Data Source: 2005 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey

For more information on wages, refer to WAGEinfo. For job descriptions, duties, required skills and education for specific occupations in the Accommodation and Food Services industry, visit the ALIS website.

Section C: Additional Information

1. Links to Selected Industry Associations:

- Alberta Hotel and Lodging Association
- Alberta Restaurant and Foodservices Association
- Travel Alberta
- Hotel Association of Canada

2. Link to Government Library Database:

http://www.servicelink.gov.ab.ca/libraries/workplace/